

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Bill E. Cham and Jo-Ann Maltais)	
)	Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Serial No. Not yet assigned)	
)	Examiner: Not yet assigned
Filed: June 20, 2003)	
)	
For: A Method of Treating and Preventing)	
Infectious Diseases Via Creation of a)	
Modified Viral Particle with)	
Immunogenic Properties)	

**STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL BECAUSE OF
INVENTION RELATING TO HIV/AIDS (37 CFR § 1.102 AND M.P.E.P. § 708.02(X))**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, John K. McDonald, Ph.D., am an attorney for the applicants in the above-identified application, and I hereby state the following:

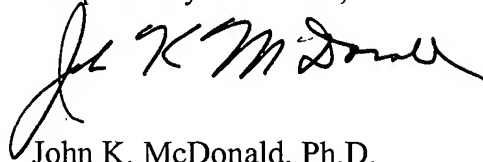
1. The invention disclosed in the above-identified application is directed to compositions and methods which are useful in the treatment of HIV/AIDS, as specified in M.P.E.P. § 708.02(X). The present invention provides modified viral particles, methods of making these particles and methods of using them as components of vaccines to treat or prevent HIV infection.

2. Pre-examination searches have been conducted.

Express Mail Label No. EV 334683633US
Filed June 20, 2003

3. An information disclosure statement is concurrently filed together with a copy of each reference.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John K. McDonald". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John K. McDonald, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 42,860

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